

IDAHO HEATING, VENTILATION, AND AIR CONDITIONING BOARD MEETING January 24, 2006

***Minutes of the January 24, 2006 Meeting Of the Idaho Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning Board**

NOTE: The following report is not intended to be a verbatim transcript of the discussions at the meeting, but is intended to record the significant features of those discussions.

The January 24, 2006, meeting of the Idaho Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning Board was called to order by Chairman Pat Minegar at 9:00a.m. The meeting was held in Meridian, Idaho, at the office of the Division of Building Safety. Those attending were:

BOARD MEMBERS: Pat Minegar, Chairman
Carol Alexander
Jim Bledsoe
Mike Wisdom
Steve Brown

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: N/A

DBS STAFF MEMBERS: John A. McAllister, DBS Administrator
Steve Keys, Buildings Bureau Chief
Ted Hogander, HVAC/Plumbing Bureau Chief
Kay Christensen, Deputy Attorney General
Russ Owen, HVAC Program Supervisor
Al Caine, Licensing Supervisor
Bob Rawlings, Code Specialist
Linda Hyde, Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary.

OTHERS PRESENT: Stanley Johnson, HVAC Contractor Assoc.
Phil Peterson, Sheet Metal Contractors Assoc.
Lorie Sermon, Sermon Service
Ted Sermon, Sermon Service
Rick Evans, All Seasons Propane
Wayne Price, Gas Products – Boise
Burton Waite, Professor-Technical, BSU
Michael Breed, Eastern Idaho Plumbers/Pipefitters, JATC
Rod Clay, SWID Plumbers & Pipefitters, JATC
Rosie Rosco, BSU
Andrea Mihm, NWHPBA
Bob Corbell, HVAC Assoc.

All the guests, Board members, and staff introduced themselves, and who they were affiliated with.

AGENDA

Carol Alexander moved that the Agenda be approved. Jim Bledsoe seconded the motion and the Agenda was approved.

MINUTES

Jim Bledsoe moved to approve the October 25, 2005 minutes. Mike Wisdom seconded the motion and the minutes were approved as written.

Carol Alexander moved to approve the December 20, 2005 teleconference meeting minutes. Jim Bledsoe seconded the motion and the minutes were approved as written.

HVAC APPRENTICE SCHOOLS REPORT

Rosie Rosco (BSU) and Burton Waite (PTE) reported to the Board about how the HVAC state-wide apprenticeship classes were going. This report did not include private schools. BSU has four year (1) classes with 97 students enrolled. They started another class last night (1/23/06). BSU also has a year (2) class going which has a combined Sheet Metal class, phasing out the Sheet Metal people, with 119 people enrolled. ITEC in Idaho Falls has two classes going with 36 students. NIC in North Idaho has a one year (1) class with 23 students, of which 11 are taking an extra 32 hours in Sheet Metal instruction, that's not included in the program. They also have a combined Sheet Metal class with about 11 students there. LCSC has one class with about 15 students and ISU has a couple with about 30 students.

All together we have thirteen classes going on around the state with 234 students. CSI is not running an Apprenticeship class yet, but they will in the Fall. The existing program is a for credit, full-time program. They are still running this program. They will change over to evening classes in the Fall.

Overall, things are going well with some bugs attributable to the new curriculum yet to be resolved. We have a good group of instructors who have not gotten a lot of feedback. They also developed a fuel gas course which is a part of year (2) and can be offered as a stand alone course. Rosie doesn't know what will develop with the Hearth Industry, but stands ready to assist.

BSU is starting work on a stand alone Code class that would be a part of year (4). BSU received some funding from PTE and Chris Miller is just getting started on that. The class would be available as a stand alone course for people who need it, including people who take the test and don't pass. Chairman Minegar asked if the people can take just the Code portion in year (4), Rosie believes that it is a 48 hour class, and would be offered if sufficient demand was demonstrated.

Further discussion ensued where Chairman Minegar asked what involvement the Board will have in reviewing the curriculum – Rosie stated that it was her understanding that BSU/PTE would bring it back to the Board after they have done a year of the program with feedback from the students. Chairman Minegar stated that the Board reserved the right to review the curriculum and make recommendations as needed on any of the educational programs. Mr. Minegar asked if there was a mechanism in place to have some sort of standing committee outside the Board that does review the education portion of any of the classes. Rosie stated that it wasn't a bad idea, as sometimes the key information doesn't get through unless there is a contact person from the Board.

Chairman Minegar then asked how the other Boards handle this situation. Rosie stated that the Electrical Board's curriculum is being handled through a vendor known as IEC, and that there has been a problem with communication. That is why some of their Board members decided it was a good idea to have a member of the state Electrical Board act as an educational liaison with the schools, so that when the educators have issues they know who to contact. The Electrical Board is probably going to pursue the matter further.

Burton Waite (Professor PTE) asked to speak, clarifying what PTE does. In all the apprenticeship areas, PTE tries to work with the industry in preparing curriculum that meets the needs of the industry. PTE welcomes input at any point from this Board, and recognized that the curriculum will probably need to be modified as time goes on. Burton would put together the funding so that industry people could get together to review the curriculum. He wants a closer relationship than what has existed between PTE and the various Boards.

Al Caine suggested that Burton Waite speak to the schools' advisory committees. The advisory committee for each program generally serves as the best conduit for information regarding issues that arise.

Chairman Minegar asked representatives from Boise State University to attend the next HVAC meeting in April (Twin Falls) or in June here in Meridian to present the curriculum for the years (3) and (4) for review. If needed the Board can do a telephone conference also.

Burton Waite then asked to speak to explain how he has approved the various curricula from the training entities throughout the state. He needs the Boards approval to continue the process that PTE goes through to approve each curriculum and also to distribute the list of providers that PTE has already approved. He also reminded the Board that if someone completed the 9 month program at Boise State University and got a certificate, it would be equivalent to the four years or the 576 hours of Apprenticeship training and they would get one year of credit or 2000 hours in their apprenticeship. From a state-wide perspective, does this apply to all the other post-secondary institutions that have HVAC programs? He is getting a lot of phone calls from these schools. Is this the Board's intent? Mr. Waite requested a motion to clarify this so that he can report back to the other post-secondary schools. In the hand-out that was given to the Board, Mr. Waite listed (6) institutions, and the programs that they have in HVAC.

MOTION

Carol Alexander moved that this Board approve the list of training providers as meeting the requirements for the Board's training requirement under the documentation presented by Mr. Burton Waite (PTE). Jim Bledsoe seconded the motion and the list of training providers was approved.

Next, Jim Bledsoe introduced Ted Sermon from Idaho Falls to the Board and the audience. Ted is Vice-President of the HVAC Association down there, and has filled out a resume' and applied it to the Governor's office to serve on this Board.

Hearth Journeyman Specialty exams were brought up next by Russ Owen. Russ stated that the Bureau has recently been asked questions that need to be answered. The new Specialty certification has been approved by this Board, but there is no exam designated by this Board. Currently DBS uses ICC for Journeyman and Contractor and Business Law examinations, and Russ thought the Hearth industry would administer that exam for us somehow, although he doesn't know if they did come up with an exam for us, how would it be administered? Russ doesn't know if we could use ICC, because they use Lazergrade to administer their exams. The way IDAPA reads, "successfully complete a board approved training course", such as NFI's program. What else can be identified as an approved training course? We don't have some of those answers to be able to give people that want to apply as an apprentice at this time and possibly for a Specialty certificate in the future. There is also some question as to 60 hours of education in gas piping, what would be approved for that...BSU has that in their curriculum, and could possibly offer that. The HVAC Bureau is not sure how the rest of the people around the state will obtain 60 hours of gas piping education.

Steve Keys then suggested that for the next Board meeting, the staff will look at the situation and bring back a proposal for development of a stand alone gas piping class with certification at completion.

Chairman Minegar agreed and said as a temporary measure contractors can register employees as apprentices to get them started, then, this Board wants to hear back from the Hearth industry with recommendations to solve this problem. Another question is how does someone come into and challenge the exam? For example, someone from a different state comes in, and has twenty years of experience; can they test? What does the Hearth industry think they can do to make this happen? Bill Hartman said that he had talked to NFI and they told him that they would be willing to take a look at our state altering the requirements for NFI, simplify it a little, and put it into one test. Bill Hartman and NFI also talked about the gas piping issue. So Bill and NFI will follow-up on that at the next Board meeting.

Chairman Minegar then adjourned the meeting at 12:00 pm.

STEVE KEYS,
BUILDINGS BUREAU CHIEF

DATE

JOHN A. MCALLISTER
ADMINISTRATOR DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY

DATE

PAT MINEGAR,
CHAIRMAN, HEATING VENTILATION AND AIR CONDITIONING BOARD

DATE